

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-15, 17-32, 34 and 37-39 were allowed in application U.S. Serial No. 10/329,426, which also sought reissue of U.S. Patent No. 6,303,146, and from which the instant application is a continuation reissue application. Thus, these claims have been canceled in the present application. The remaining claims 16, 33, 35, 36 and 40 are presented for examination. (Claim 41 is not being pursued although it clearly has full support in the specification.)

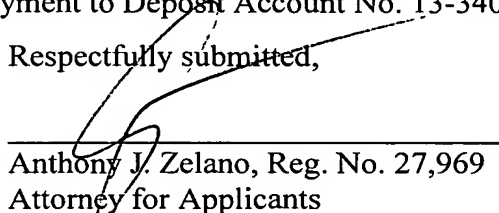
With regard to the assignment, it is noted that the executed assignment recorded at Reel 010369, Frame 927-929 applies to "any and all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and renewals thereof." Therefore, the transferred ownership interests include the instant application; the assignee has thus established its ownership in the instant application through the papers filed in the parent in conjunction with the attached Written Assent of the Assignee.

### **Additional Statement Accompanying Reissue Application**

The accompanying statement of support for all changes to the claims (from the parent) applies fully to the claims of this reissue application because the claims are in substance identical to those of the parent. Claims 42 and 43 are identical to claims 36/35 and 40/36/35 of the parent. The wording changes in claims 16 and 33 merely restate the original versions and make clarifications suggested by the examiner in the parent regarding antecedent basis.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this preliminary amendment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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